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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

8 MAR 1993

IN REPLY REFER TO:
7330-7/1700A3

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MAR 12 1993

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Honorable Craig Thomas
House of Representatives
Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Thomas:

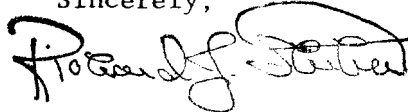
This is in reply to your letter of February 10, 1993, in which you inquired on behalf of several of your constituents regarding the Notice of Proposed Rule Making (Notice) in PR Docket No. 92-235, 57 FR 54034 (1992). This Notice proposes comprehensive changes to the Commission's Rules governing the private land mobile radio services operating in the frequency bands below 512 MHz.

Your constituents are specifically concerned about the impact of these changes on radio control (R/C) hobby users. Enclosed is a discussion paper concerning our proposals for the 72-76 MHz band. In short, we expect there would be no adverse impact on R/C operations because of any proposal contained in the Notice.

We are, of course, sensitive to the concerns of both users of private land mobile radio spectrum and R/C hobbyists. We will, therefore, take your constituents' concerns into account when we develop final rules in this proceeding. As indicated in the Notice, we remain convinced that without significant regulatory change in radio operations in the bands below 512 MHz, the quality of communications in the private land mobile radio services will continue to deteriorate to the point of endangering public safety and the national economy.

We want to thank you for your interest in this proceeding. Your constituents' letters will be included in the record of the proceeding. We expect final rules to be issued in 1994.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Shiben
Chief, Land Mobile & Microwave Division
Private Radio Bureau

Enclosures

cc:

CNTL NO - 9300761

Chief, PR Bureau
Chief, LM&M Division
Docket Files, Room 222
P&P Branch File (Pink)

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Congressional

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AND ~~REPLY FOR DOCKET FILE, ROOM 222.~~

CONGRESSIONAL CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING SYSTEM
02/22/93

LETTER REPORT

CONTROL NO.	DATE RECEIVED	DATE OF CORRESP	DATE DUE	DATE DUE OLA(857)
9300761	02/22/93	02/10/93	03/05/93	

TITLE	MEMBERS NAME	REPLY FOR SIG OF
Congressman	Craig Thomas	BC

CONSTITUENT'S NAME	SUBJECT
several	inq. comments on PR Docket 92-235

REF TO	REF TO	REF TO	REF TO
PRB/kmm			

3-24-93

DATE	DATE	DATE	DATE
02/22/93			

REMARKS:

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FEB 24 4 33 PM '93
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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-5001

February 10, 1993

James Quello
Acting Director
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Good morning James...

I'm writing to pass along several letters from constituents of mine who are concerned about the proposed reduction of frequencies assigned for model aviation use, PR Docket 92-235.

I want to be sure these letters are included in the public record under this docket, and that they are given every consideration. I'd also appreciate any information you may have on the purpose and justification for the proposed rule.

Thank you, in advance, for your timely consideration of this request.

Best regards,

Craig

Craig Thomas
Member of Congress

CT:ms
ENCL

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FEB 24 11 03 AM '93

Steven R. Hunt
P.O. Box 1152
Evansville, Wy.
82636
President;
Casper Airmodelers

Dear Mr. Thomas,

I have been interested in model aircraft for as long as I can remember but as it is a rather involved hobby and the equipment was beyond my financial means until about six years ago. Modern electronics have made the equipment very affordable to almost everyone. I have evolved from novice to instructor and president. I now have over \$12,000 invested into my personal equipment. The number of people that enjoy model airplanes is well over 400,000 and growing daily.


The Academy of Model Aeronautics and the FCC have worked hard in the last few years to develop safe and clear channels (frequencies) for the use of model airplanes. These channels are in the 72-76 MHz band and is primarily used for private land mobil dispatch operations. However, our radio control frequencies in this band are far enough apart from the land mobil frequencies that we now have no interference with each other. As it is presently all is well.

Unfortunately if PR Docket 92-235 is adopted 62% of these now safe channels will be subject to interference from the changes. I feel that should the change be adopted and I get interference causing one of my 50 pound multi engine planes to crash into a group of people and killing several or any lessor damage I will file the law suit my self in behalf of those injured. These frequencies must be kept safe and clear of any interference for the safety of the public as most of the models have a flying range of over 20 miles

The FCC may not feel we are an important faction as business users of radios and that our planes are just toys like the cars sold at places like Radio Shack that must except interference as it comes. The only difference between our model planes and manned planes is size and when we have the ability to control them taken away at some unknown time disaster is eminent.

I do not feel the FCC has the right to allow the frequencies to be developed at the expense of the modeler and then destroy 62%.

Please help me and my 400,000 friends continue the safe enjoyment of my pastime by not allowing the FCC to carry out its proposals for the 72-76 MHz band by adopting PR Docket 92-235!

Sincerely,

Steven Hunt

273 Daffodil
Casper, Wyo. 82604

Representative Craig Thomas
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D. C. 20515

FCC Rules: PR Docket 92- 235

Dear Mr Thomas;

I am retired and derive many hours of enjoyment from constructing and operating radio controlled aircraft.

I am very concerned about proposed rules that are currently under consideration by the FCC in Pr Docket 92- 235. If adopted, the new rules will greatly reduce the number of frequencies currently assigned for model aircraft use, and increase the risk of accidents and liability.

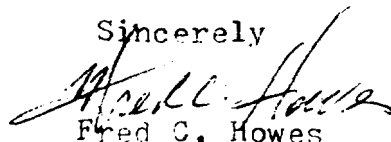
These radio frequencies are in the 72-76 MHz band. The Proposed change will create more land mobile frequencies within the 72-76 MHz range by splitting them into narrower band widths and rearranging the band plan. This will result in many land mobile frequencies encroaching upon the aircraft frequencies, and creating interference to all radio control operations.

Our club and national organization have gone to great lengths to assure the safety of operators and bystanders as well as the protection of property. Many of our safety precautions relate to the coordination of our individual frequencies. It is expected that if the number of useable frequencies are reduced as proposed by PR Docket 92-235, the reduced number of frequencies for aircraft will become excessively congested and the margin of safety will be in great jeopardy.

Radio interference can cause the operator to lose control of his flying air craft. Such congestion and interference at organized events and contests featuring hundreds of operators can be a tremendous hazard to operators, bystanders, and property. Therefore, it is important that the full compliment of radio frequencies previously assigned by the FCC be maintained intact.

Please help our club "Casper Modelers Ass'n" and national organization, "Academy of Model AERonautics", to continue a safe environment for all by your influence and vote against this change.

Sincerely


Fred C. Howes

January 16, 1993

The Honorable Craig Thomas
U. S. House of Reps.
1019 Longworth Hob
Washington DC 20515

Dear Sir:

I have been interested in radio controlled aircraft since serving a U.S. Naval tour of duty in the late 50's in the Pensacola Florida Command and Navel Aviation Station in Patuxent River, Maryland. Currently I have invested several hundreds of dollars in R/C flight.

The FCC is proposing adopting NPRM-PR Docket 92-235. If adopted, the new rules will greatly restrict the usable frequencies and increase the risk of accidents to model pilots, attendants, observers, parked vehicles and even to adjacent property owners.

The Academy of Model Aeronautics, model clubs all across America and the thousands of members of clubs from coast to coast have put many hours and dollars into making our sport safe and very enjoyable for all ages. Some of our crafts weigh 55 lbs and more and the safety of everyone is most important with one of these birds in flight.

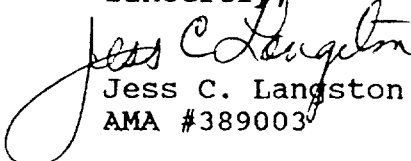
Please do not allow the FCC to create more land mobil frequencies by splitting our band widths and restricting our assigned bands. Our R/C frequencies are in the 72-76 MHz band. We already experience occasional harmonic overtones from AM and FM broadcast. The proposed plan, I understand, will have almost four times the power outage of ours, disturbing approximately half of the frequencies we have used for 60 years.

The AMA and FCC in 1991 broadened our bands by narrow banding and assigning approximately 100% more usable channels in our 72-76 MHz band width. I believe it would be unwise to restrict our already very busy band width in our rapidly expanding sport and pastime that is enjoyed by thousands of model aviation enthusiasts.

The AMA Club in Casper, Wyoming is attracting more and more participants to our annual Jumbo Fly In and Reno Style Pylon races held each year at our flying facility. Please help our club continue to enjoy our pastime by not allowing the FCC to carry out it's proposals for the 72-76 MHz Band restricting.

Thank you for your time and for anything you can do to help us with this very important concern.

Sincerely,


Jess C. Langston
AMA #389003

cc: Senator Alan K. Simpson
Senator Malcolm Wallop
FCC

The Honorable Craig Thomas
1012 Longworth HOB
Washington D C 20515

01-22-93

Dear Mr. Thomas:

I have been interested in aviation for a number of years I am active in a local club whose members enjoy constructing and operating radio controlled model airplanes. I am concerned about proposed rules that are currently under consideration by the Federal Communications Commission. The proceeding is PR Docket 92-235. If adopted, the new rules will greatly reduce the usability of frequencies currently assigned for model aircraft use, and increase the risk of accidents and attendant liability for controlling model aircraft.

Our radio control frequencies are in the 72-76MHz band. This band is primarily used for private land mobile dispatch operations. However, our radio control frequencies in this band are far enough apart from the land mobile frequencies that we have been able to share the band without either use interfering with the other.

Now the FCC wants to create more land mobile frequencies by splitting them into narrower bandwidths and rearranging the band plan. As a result, many land mobile frequencies will move closer to the radio control frequencies and cause interference with radio control operations. I am told that of the 50 frequencies that are presently available for radio control of model airplanes, only 19 frequencies will be left if these new rules are adopted.

When we fly our model airplanes under radio control, we go to great lengths to assure the safety of the operators and bystanders, and the protection of property. Many of our safety precautions involve the careful coordination and use of the radio control frequencies. If the number of usable frequencies is diminished as proposed by the FCC, the remaining frequencies will become congested and the margin of safety will be greatly decreased.

Please understand that many model airplanes have wing spans up to 10 feet and weigh as much as 30 or 40 pounds. The models themselves are expensive to build, but more to the point, they are capable of causing property damage, serious injury, or even death if radio interference causes the operator to lose control of the craft. We often fly our models at organized events and contests where hundreds of operators participate. We need the use of our full complement of radio control frequencies in order to assure a safe flying environment.

I do not think it is wise of the FCC to seek to improve the operating conditions of land mobile radio users at the expense of radio control modelers. The FCC may not think we are as important as business users of radios, but we have considerable amount of time and investment in our models, and in our radio equipment. The hobby provides many hours of enjoyment to thousands of people like myself and contributes to the advancement and development of the commercial aviation industry.

Please help me continue the safe enjoyment of my hobby by not allowing the FCC to carry out its proposals for the 72-76 MHz band.

Sincerely,

Ben A. Hurlenthal

January 27, 1993

Jon Wade
600 Riding Club Rd
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82009

Honorable Craig Thomas
2120 Capitol Avenue
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82001

Re: NPRM in PR DOCKET 92-235

Congressman Thomas:

I recently learned that the FCC is considering an action that will severely limit, and perhaps eliminate a very important interest of mine - radio controlled (R/C) airplanes, cars, and boats.


Their notice of proposed rule making in PR Docket 92-235 replaces part 90 of their rules with a new part 88. Part 90 allows for safe use of R/C aircraft and surface models by keeping 10 khz spacing between fixed commercial users and frequencies used by R/C enthusiasts. The new part 88 will allow mobile users on frequencies within 2.5 khz of frequencies reserved for R/C users. This will eliminate safe use of at least 31 of the 50 channels on the 72 mhz band, and 10 of the 30 channels on the 75 mhz band now used by R/C hobbyists. It is possible that even more channels than this will be adversely affected.

This action will have a severe impact on me and the entire R/C model industry. If put into effect, my airplane could easily be destroyed by a mobile user that I never even knew was in the vicinity, and the mobile would probably not even be aware of the damage they caused. Further, this creates a substantial threat to human health. An R/C model out of control can cause terrible wounds, and even take a life.

I have been involved in this hobby for several years. My boys and I own four radios, two airplanes, two cars, and one boat. In addition, we have numerous engines, chargers, field accessories, and miscellaneous equipment to support our hobby. When you consider there are hundreds of thousands of other R/C hobbyists in the United States it becomes apparent that this proposed rule change will affect a great number of people economically, and will severely infringe on a hobby that we sincerely enjoy.

I urge you to take action to stop this change. Please keep 10 khz spacing between all frequencies on the 75 mhz and 72 mhz bands, which will allow the continued safe use of these bands by R/C enthusiasts. Please don't eliminate a hobby that has grown tremendously over the past 30 years, and has so much investment of money and is so enjoyed by people nationwide.

Sincerely,


Jon Wade

818 Belle Fourche
Gillette, WY 82716
January 29, 1993

The Honorable Craig Thomas
1019 Longworth Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Thomas:

I have been interested in aviation for as long as I can remember. I am very active in a local club whose members enjoy constructing and operating radio controlled model airplanes.

I am very concerned about proposed rules that are currently under consideration by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). The proceeding is PR Docket 92-235. If adopted, the new rules will greatly reduce the usability of frequencies currently assigned for model use and increase the risk of accident and attendant liability for controlling model airplanes.

Our radio control frequencies are in the 72 - 76 MHz band. This band is primarily used for private land mobile dispatch operation. However, our radio control frequencies in this band are far enough apart from the land mobile frequencies that we have been able to share the band without either use interfering with the other.

Now the FCC wants to create more land mobile frequencies by splitting them into narrower bandwidths and rearranging the band plan. As a result, many land mobile frequencies will move closer to the radio control frequencies and cause interference to radio control operations. I'm told that of the 50 frequencies that are presently available for radio control of model airplanes, only 19 frequencies will be left if these new rules are adopted.

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models at organized events and contests where hundreds of operators participate. We need the use of our full complement of radio frequencies in order to assure a safe flying environment.

I do not think it is wise of the FCC to seek to improve the operating conditions of land mobile radio users at the expense of radio control modelers. The FCC may not think we are as important as business users of radios, but we have a considerable investment in our models and in our radio equipment. The hobby provides many hours of enjoyment to thousands of people like myself and contributes to the advancement and development of the commercial aviation industry.

Please help me continue the safe enjoyment of my pastime by not allowing the FCC to carry out its proposals for the 71-76 MHz band.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Clyde Owen".